Atomic Energy Houses

†1013. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

the details of the proposed Atomic Energy Houses in the country. State-wise;

whether it is a fact that the case of 2000 Megawatt capacity Atomic Energy House in Madhya Pradesh is pending before Government for approval even after the declaration of Government in this regard;

if so, the reasons for delay in the said approval and by when its approval is likely to be given; and

if not, the reasons therefor?

THEMINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Government has approved, in-principle, following sites for setting up of future nuclear power reactors:

Kudankulam inTamil Nadu—2x1000 MWe LWRs,

Jaitapur in Maharashtra—2x1000 MWe LWRs.

Kakrapar in Gujarat—2x700 MWe PHWRs.

Rawatbhata in Rajasthan—2x700 MWe PHWRs.

LWR—Imported Light Water Reactor

PHWR—Indigenous Pressurized Heavy Water Reactor

No, Sir

and (d) Does not arise.

Allotment of coal blocks

1014. SHRI B.J. PANDA:
MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

whether Orissa Government has asked the Centre for allotment of three coal blocks for their shell companies created by State owned Orissa Hydro Power Corporation;

if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time-frame within which the above proposal of the State Government would be considered and approved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir The Government of Orissa had requested for allocation of five coal blocks, earmarked for allocation to power projects to be awarded through tarifTbase bidding, to the three shell companies formed through the Orissa Hydro Power Corporation, a public sector undertaking of the Government of Orissa. Ministry of Power have requested the State Government to finalise their views on the proposal to allocate the said five coal blocks in Orissa to the multi-State Special Purpose Vehicles (SPVs) to be set up by the Power

†Original notice of the question was rectived in Hindi

Finance Corporation on the pattern of the ongoing Ultra Mega Power Projects. The views of the State Government are awaited.

Shortage of coal stock at thermal stations

1015. SHRIMATI KANIMOZHI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

whether thermal stations face severe shortage of coal stocks;

if so, the reasons therefor; and

the remedial action taken to manage the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL(DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) There has been a depletion of coal stocks at some power plants during this year. However, as per CEA, it has not affeted generation, which has registered a growth of 4% during April-October, 2007 compared to corresponding period of previous year.

The major reasons for stock depletion in those Thermal Power Stations include increase in Plant Load Factor or some power stations, unloading constraints at power house end, less availability of coal from Captive mines of Power Utilities, Law and Order problems which affect both coal mining and despatch, inventory control by some of the power stations, less import of coal *viz-a-viz* the targetted level, transportation constraints in evacuation of coal fi-om mines to sidings, adverse geo-mining conditions, problems relating to land acquisition etc.

In order to ensure adequate supply of coal to all power utilities, the supply of coal is reviewed by the Standing Linkage Committee (Short-term), which is an inter-ministerial body, on a quarterly basis. There is also a Sub-group under the Chairmanship of Additional Secretary comprising the representatives of Ministry of Power, Railways and Central Electricity Authority to monitor supply of coal to various power stations. The corrective measures taken by the Sub-group from time to time in the past have ensured sufficient supply of coal to various power utilities to prevent loss of generation of power due to non availability of coal.

Royalty on coal and other minerals

†1016. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

whether it is a fact that States are facing difficulty as royalty on coal and other minerals is not revised;

if so, whether State Governments have demanded that royalty should be revised;

if so, the decision taken by Government in this regard; and

whether Government would compensate for the loss incurred by States due to non-revision of royalty?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO): (a) to (d) The royalty rates on coal and lignite have been revised with effect from 01.08.2007. The royalty rates on coal were earlier revised on 16.08.2002. Section 9(3) of the Minies and Minerals (Development & Regulation) Act, 1957 empowers the Central Government to enhance or reduce the royalty rates in respect of any mineral by notification

†Original notice of the question was rectived in Hindi